

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201293

17 15

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC PFOR UR US

SUBJECT: LEDDINGTON AFFAIR

REF: STATE 190108

1. DEPTOFF ON OCTOBER 5 AGAIN RAISED WITH GALISHNIKOV DEPARTMENT'S OUTSTANDING REQUEST FOR AN EXPLANATION OF LEDDINGTON'S DETENTION, REFUSAL TO ALLOW HIM TO CALL EMBASSY, AND CONFISCATION OF HIS FILM. GALISHNIKOV REPLIED THAT MATTER HAD ALREADY BEEN DEALT WITH IN MOSCOW, IMPLYING THAT EMBASSY WOULD HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY.

2. WHEN PRESSED, GALISHNIKOV SAID LEDDINGTON AND DEMONSTRATOR HAD OBVIOUSLY STAGED THE PROTEST DEMONSTRATION AND LEDDINGTON'S ACTIONS WERE THEREFORE PROVOCATIVE. GALISHNIKOV ADDED THAT LEDDINGTON HAD VIOLATED TRAFFIC LAWS BY RUNNING ACROSS STREET RATHER THAN USING UNDERGROUND PASSAGE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 201293

3. DEPTOFF REPLIED THAT LEDDINGTON MAY HAVE BEEN ACTING ON

A TIP, WHICH WAS STANDARD JOURNALISTIC PRACTICE. HE SHOULD NOT HOWEVER HAVE BEEN DETAINED, DENIED RIGHT TO CALL EMBASSY -- WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 12 OF CONSULAR CONVENTION -- OR DEPRIVED OF FILM WHILE IN THE CONDUCT OF HIS NORMAL JOURNALISTIC PROFESSION. GALISHNIKOV SAID THAT HE HAD NOTED DEPTOFF'S COMMENTS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: collinp0
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